



PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Krivitski, Nikolai M. Atty. Docket: 86017.000012  
Serial No.: 09/241,455 Examiner: B. Szmal  
Filed: February 2, 1999 Art Unit: 3736  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING A BLOOD FLOW  
DURING VASCULAR ACCESS DYSFUNCTION CORRECTIVE  
PROCEDURES

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 6, 2001, please consider the  
above referenced application amended as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for determining a blood flow in a vessel,  
comprising:

(a) an elongate catheter having a stenosis reducing member, a blood  
property change port located to alter a blood property outside the catheter and a  
downstream sensor spaced from the port for producing a signal corresponding to the  
blood property in blood flow between the catheter and the vessel.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein one of the sensor and the catheter is  
configured to locate the sensor with respect to the vessel to minimize wall effects.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a controller operably  
connected to the sensor to calculate a flow rate corresponding to the signal from the  
downstream sensor.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the blood property change port  
includes an aperture for introducing a blood property variant.

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